

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-06 AID-05

PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-11 /093 W

----- 088298

R 111126Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 560

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 1781

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EFIN IS

SUBJ: NEW INCOME TAX COMMISSIONER NAMED

REF: TEL AVIV 1284

1. MINISTER OF FINANCE RABINOWITZ ANNOUNCED MARCH 10 THAT HE WAS NOMINATING ELIEZER SHILONI AS NEW INCOME TAX COMMISSIONER. SHILONI IS PRESENTLY DEPUTY COMMISSIONER AND HAS BEEN WITH REVENUE ADMINISTRATION SINCE 1961, WORKING PRIMARILY ON INVESTIGATIONS. SHILONI'S APPOINTMENT SUBJECT TO CABINET CONFIRMATION WHICH IS EXPECTED NEXT SUNDAY.

2. PREVIOUS COMMISSIONER, YITZHAK MANN, REFUSED TO COMMENT TO PRESS ON REASONS FOR HIS RESIGNATION LAST MONTH, BUT NOTED THAT PRICES OF BEARER BONDS HAD RISEN SINCE HE RESIGNED. MANN QUOTED AS SAYING: QUOTE IMPORTANCE OF HONEST INCOME TAX PAYMENTS GOES FAR BEYOND GOVERNMENT'S NEED TO RAISE BILLIONS OF POUNDS. IF AFFECTS VERY QUALITY OF LIFE AND WILL DETERMINE WHETHER THIS COUNTRY IS WORTH LIVING IN....WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR SOCIETY NOW, PROTECTION RACKETS, VIOLENCE, AND INCREASE IN DRUG-TAKING HAS BEEN EXACERBATED BY BILLIONS OF POUNDS OF 'BLACK CAPITAL' FLOATING AROUND THE COUNTRY. PUBLIC MUST TAKE STAND THAT PAYING HONEST TAXES IS NO LESS A NATIONAL DUTY THAN DOING RESERVE DUTY, WHICH NO ONE TRIES TO EVADE, MUCH LESS FLAUNT AS A CLEVER TRICK. END QUOTE.

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3. SHILONI UNDERSTANDABLY HAS BEEN MORE CIRCUMSPECT. HE WAS QUOTED

IN PRESS AS SAYING THERE HAD BEEN DEFINITE IMPROVEMENT IN TAX
COMPLIANCE SINCE LAST YEAR'S INCOME TAX REFORMS WERE IMPLEMENTED. WHI
LE
DECLINING TO SPECULATE ON TOTAL AMOUNT OF "BLACK MONEY" IN
CIRCULATION, HE CONFIRMED THAT ELIMINATION OF THIS UNTAXED MONEY
WOULD BE ONE OF HIS HIGHEST PRIORITIES.
TOON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: EFIN, IS, (SHILONI, ELIEZER)
To: STATE
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